

The Roadrunner Review



Volume 1 Issue 2

October 2009

October 2009 Events

- 8 PTO Meeting
- 9 First Quarter Ends
- 12 NO SCHOOL
- 15 Title 1 Math Night 5:30PM
- October Birthdays at lunch
- 23 Roadrunner Awards
- 26-30 Book Fair
- 28 Fall Festival Activities
Parent/Teacher/Student
Conferences 4-8 pm
- 29 NO SCHOOL
Parent/Teacher/Student
Conferences 8am-8pm
- 30 NO SCHOOL

we have to go to school and continue to learn. This allows us to provide our students with a great education here at Ross.

Walk To School Safety Presentation

National Walk to School Safety Day is Wednesday, October 7. Ross students will be participating in the event by meeting at the church at 35th and Indiana between 7:50 and 8:00. We will have a short presentation on the safety rules of walking and riding bikes to school. We will then walk to school following the safety instructions. This is an important event and we encourage all Ross students and parents to participate. A nutritional snack will be provided. We hope to see you there.

Fall Festival Parade

The Fall Festival parade has become a long standing Ross tradition. On Wednesday, October 28 around 9:00 A.M., we will have our Fall Festival Parade. Students will be allowed to parade around the block wearing their costumes. We are expecting Highland Park High School's Marching Band to lead our parade. Parents are welcomed to come out and line the parade route to enjoy the kids and to help us celebrate the changing of the seasons.

Dress for the Weather

The weather in Kansas is hard to predict. Some days are warm and sunny and others can be cloudy and cool. Student and parents are encouraged to look at the weather forecast and dress appropriately for the weather. This will be important if you ride a bus and have to wait at the bus stop, if you walk to school, if you arrive before 8:00 A. M. in the morning, or you go out for recess. As a rule our students all go outside for recess unless the wind chill is below 20 degrees or it is raining. On cold days students should try to dress in layers. We also strongly encourage parents to label their child's clothing. Please write your child's first and last names in all articles of clothing that might be lost at school. This

Congratulations to the September Roadrunner Winners!

Mrs. Ferguson: Angel Beltran & Katie Williams
Mrs. Holliday: Isela Zuniga, Isabella Welch, Asia Whetstone
Mr. Kennedy: Ashleigh Wemhoff and Ja'Vonte Bullock
Mrs. Baruth: Jason McClain & Brandy Lara
Mrs. DeLorge: Jordynnn Baker & Antonio Benfer
Ms. Maynard: Hannah Anthony & Joseph Baker
Mrs. Seelbach: Trevion Alexander & Nicole Rowzer
Mrs. Cunningham: Gracie Ruth & Sebastian Beltran
Ms. Feldkamp: Jayla Brooks, Zackary Brown, & James Saraquase
Ms. Meinert: Sarah Payne, Quentin Handy, & Janie Johnson
Ms. Artzer: Jonathan Perez & Wendy Sanchez
Mrs. McConnaughey: Sage Poe & Angel Gonzalez
Mrs. Michaelson: Tahj James
Ms. Aubert: Clayton Johnson, Jasmine Peppers & Dalton Bass
Mrs. Brown-Reed: Timothy Baker, Daisy Gonzalez & Malachi Buckmaster
Mrs. Cox: Jajuan Peppers & Asiana Smith
Mr. Kelly: Cavion Lyons & Cedric Starks
Ms. Kuntz: Destiny Bradshaw, Deziree Henderson, & Rochael Ramirez



NICHOLS' NOTES

By Nick Nichols, Principal

Thanks to all the students, parent and friends who supported our fall fundraiser. We appreciate your support and all you do for the students and staff at Ross.

Ross Teachers Are Learners TOO!!!

Have you ever wondered what the Ross teachers are doing when you are out of school on professional development days? We are learning. Our school district provides many opportunities throughout the year for teacher to learn how to improve their teaching skills and effectiveness. Sometimes teacher attend classes just for their grade level. Other times they attend meeting for all teachers, and some times they attend classes that are designed specifically for Ross. The classes can range from learning how to use new books and curriculum to ways to improve how we analyze our students' assessment data to improve instruction. Just like our students,

Ross Mission Statement

The mission of Ross Elementary School is to develop a partnership among students, parents, staff and the community to build a foundation of excellence in academic and life skills.

First Grade News

Ms. Maynard's first grade class has been having a lot of fun doing science. We have learned about amphibians and reptiles. We are now learning about weather. We took out rocket balloons and let them go out in the wind. We are working hard on reading and math and hope that parents are reading to children every night. Thanks for supporting our class.

Ms. Maynard

Inclusion Team

News from the Resource Room
2/What is a resource room?? Many students from kindergarten through fifth grade come in and out during the day to receive instruction in reading, math, written language and spelling. There are six staff members available to support the needs of the students at Ross. Sometimes the instruction given in a smaller group can help the student understand the concepts that are being taught in their general education classroom. We work very closely with the classroom teachers of the students to make sure that we are reinforcing the same concepts. Please feel free to stop in if you are in the building and see the learning that is taking place!!!

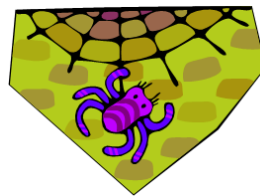
Mrs. Schafer

Second Grade News

Miss Meinert's second graders have been working hard to enhance their reading skills. Students are learning how to explore a story to find its meaning. When reading with your child, please ask them about the story: characters, setting, plot, author's purpose, problem (conflict), and solution (resolution).

What's creepy, crawly, and weaves a web? This month we will be studying spiders. Students will use class and computer lab time to research the different types of spiders.

- Miss Meinert



Fifth Grade News

The students in Mr. Kelly's room have been very busy settling into the fifth grade. A hearty welcome goes out to Sentajanee Buckley and Jamaya Richardson who are both new to Ross this year.

In Math we are working on multiplying two and three digit numbers in addition to reviewing the tested indicators that are a part of the state math assessment. In reading class the children are being exposed to a variety of genre's through chapter books in addi-

tion to the core curriculum. Social Studies involves the study of Native Americans in North America and in Science we are looking at the classification of living things.

August & September birthdays include DeAria Beard, Cavion Lyons, Karla Carbajal and Andy Mendez-Ortiz. Congratulations to Cavion Lyons and Cedric Starks who are our September students of the month.

- Mr. Kelly

Computer Lab

Did you know that your child can play many of the same computer games at home that he or she plays at school? Type the following web address into your internet browser, and let your child choose a fun and educational game!

[http://
rosselementary.wikispaces.com/](http://rosselementary.wikispaces.com/)

- Mrs. Allen

Nondiscrimination Notice

The Topeka Public Schools, Unified School District No. 501 is committed to affirmative action and equal opportunity. No person shall, on the basis of age, race, color, creed, religion, gender, disability, national origin or ancestry be denied lawful access to any appropriate educational service, program or activity provided by the school district. The Title IX compliance coordinator is the associate superintendent of administrative and support services. The Section 504 compliance coordinator is the general director of special services. The clerk of the Board of Education has been designated to receive and redirect or handle inquiries regarding nondiscrimination policies, regulations and procedures. The clerk may be contacted by calling (785) 295-3045 or by writing to 624 SW 24th Street, Topeka, Kansas 66611-1294.

Math Intervention

As the Math Interventionist for Ross elementary, I provide additional support to students in order to give them the best opportunity possible to achieve mastery of skills and concepts. State and school district goals, benchmarks, and standards guide the specifics of what is taught at each grade level, and it's my job to assist students in achieving them.

I work either within the regular classroom during the math period, or I pull out small groups of students to focus on specific mathematical skills and concepts. Both classroom teacher discernment and test data determine which students are selected to receive additional support. Student groups and support plans remain flexible as the specific needs of individual students change and are addressed.

--R. Atherly

Kindergarten News

The kindergartners are still getting used to going to school, but we're getting better every day. We are learning about letters, shapes, and counting. We are currently working on the letters j, k, and the blend ar. Soon the kindergartners will learn the letters f, b, and g. Many of the kindergartners know how to write their first name, and those who don't are still working hard.

In math we have learned many of our shapes (square, circle, triangle, square, rectangle, ellipse, and rhombus). The kindergartners

are still working on counting and patterns. Patterns are still a little confusing for us, but we aren't giving up. Everyone is working very hard to learn. Please help us grow into strong learners.—

- Mr. Kennedy

As the flu season approaches, there are several things that YOU can do to help your family stay well!

1. **Wash hands with soap and water frequently or use alcohol-based sanitizer on them.**
2. **Keep hands away from the face, mouth, and nose.**
3. **Cover with tissue or use your elbow to stop coughs and sneezes.**
4. **If you have a fever, stay home to protect others.**
5. **Do not return to work or school until you are fever-free for 24 hours without the use of a fever-reducing medication.**
6. **Remember to call the school to excuse students who will be absent so that your child will not have an unexcused absence.**

274-6280

Counselor's Corner

Conflict Resolution & Bullying Prevention

Fall is here! And as we begin a new season filled with activities and fun, we are reminded of the importance of friendship. The students of Ross will be working on conflict resolution skills, building friendships, and learning about our Bullying Prevention Program in the upcoming month.

One of the most effective ways to solve conflicts between both students and adults is to use an "I Message".

"I feel (your feeling) when you (tell the cause of the feeling). Please (tell what you would like to happen in the future)."

For example, if you were angry because someone borrowed a pencil without asking, you could calmly tell that person, *"I feel angry when you borrow my things without asking. Please ask me before you borrow my things."* This opens the door to talking about a conflict instead of yelling about it.

By learning to solve conflicts in a calm manner, we can all be more at peace, and life will be richer and serene.

- Mrs. Cress

